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finch, Pale Goldfinch, Willow Goldfinch, etc.; just as tho the first race described (usually eastern) was *the* species and the rest "subspecies of it." This latter is not an uncommon popular notion, but is of course wholly fallacious. Again, we are confronted with "Red-winged Blackbird" for *Agelaius phoeniceus phoeniceus*, while all the other subspecies and species are variously qualified "Red-wings". Wouldn't it have been better to have called the first, Eastern Red-wing, Eastern Bluebird, Eastern Song Sparrow, etc.?

Incidentally we note much inconsistency in the use of hyphens and capital initials in the vernacular names. For instance: Bush-Tit, Tree-duck, Tree Swallow, Meadowlark; Catbird, Sage Hen, Surf-bird; Spoonbill, Rough-leg, Song Sparrow; Red-wing, Redhead; Pintail, Red-tail. However, general typographical errors are extremely few; in fact we have detected only five.

It will have been notist that the above criticisms largely appertain to the Pacific Coast, with which portion of North America the reviewer happens to be most familiar. It is not to be inferred however that the same proportion of criticisms could be advanced with like reason for those portions of the Check-List relating most closely to eastern North America, for the very good reason that the personnel of the Committee is entirely of the East!

After all these criticisms, CONDOR readers may have come not unfairly by the idea that the present reviewer is either hypercritical or harbors some particular grouch; but we do not aspire to either undesirable state. We have perhaps more reason to welcome and put to immediate use the new Check-List than the majority of bird students. We wish to emphasize with all fervor that in our belief the new Check-List is an immensely valuable thing to have.

We recognize the fact that its completion has only been possible thru the combined efforts of a number of altruistic men, who have been willing to expend quantities of time and effort in an undertaking which can bring no commensurate credit to each individual concerned. Let us therefore acknowledge sincere appreciation to the Committee in charge (Allen, Richmond, Brewster, Dwight, Merriam, Ridgway and Stone), for their very material servis in thus contributing to the advancement of ornithology.

As brought out in the first paragraf of this review, the new Check-List cannot be rightly considered a permanent standard. It serves rather as a new basis (a most invaluable function) enabling students of North American birds to start out afresh in the more exact determination of distribution and systematic status of the species.—J. GRINNELL.

## MINUTES OF COOPER CLUB MEETINGS

### NORTHERN DIVISION

FEBRUARY.—The regular monthly meeting of the Northern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club was held on the evening of Saturday, February 12. In the early part of the evening the members attended a stereopticon lecture by Mr. W. L. Finley, delivered in South Hall, of the University of California, under the auspices of the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology. Mr. Finley spoke of his experiences in the lake regions of northern California and southern Oregon, illustrating the remarks with a series of beautiful and very interesting pictures dealing mostly with the water birds of the region. An interested and highly appreciative audience filled the room to the limit of its capacity.

After the lecture the Cooper Club members present assembled in the lecture room of the Museum, where the meeting was called to order by the President. The minutes of the January meeting were read, and accepted as read. On motion the Secretary was instructed to cast the unanimous ballot of all present, electing to active membership the names presented at the last meeting.

The proposal to elect Dr. J. A. Allen to honorary membership in the Cooper Club, which was brought forward at the January meeting, was again read, and, on motion duly seconded and carried, the same was past. Applications for membership from Joseph L. Sloanaker, Raisin, California, and Percy L. Judd, Chico, California, both proposed by W. Lee Chambers, were presented and laid over until the next meeting.

After the business before the meeting had been disposed of, Mr. Finley exhibited a large number of his beautiful bird photographs, a treat much appreciated by those present.

H. W. CARRIGER, *Secretary*.

MARCH.—The March meeting of the Northern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club was held on Saturday evening, March 26, in the lecture room of the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, Berkeley. The meeting was called to order at 8:30 P. M., with Senior Vice-president Rosewell Wheeler in the chair. The minutes of the last meeting were read, and approved as read. On motion the Secretary was instructed to cast the unanimous vote of all present electing to active membership Messrs. J. L. Sloanaker, and Percy L. Judd, which names were presented at the last meeting.

The resignation of Miss Applegate of Haywards was read and laid over till the next meeting.

The following applications were presented: Eugene J. Fischer, Berkeley, Calif., by H. S. Swarth; and the following by W. Lee Chambers: Edward P. Walker, Paradox, Colorado; T. Gilbert Pearson, Greensboro, N. C.; B. G. Willard, Millis, Mass.; E. F. Taylor, Grass Valley, Calif.; Albert H. Frost, New York City; John H. Sage, Portland, Conn.; Chas. F. Batchelder, Cambridge, Mass.; Geo. Chas. Embody, Ithaca, N. Y.; Jno. J. Boyce, Juneau, Alaska; P. J. Suksdorf, Bingen, Wash.; Fred B. Spaulding, Lancaster, New Hampshire; Josiah H. Clark, Paterson, New Jersey; S. H. Goodwin, Provo, Utah; W. E. Unglish, Watsonville, Calif.; W. C. Ohlendorf, M. D., Chicago, Ill.

A circular letter from the American Bird Banding Association was read and placed on file.

Mr. Rosewell Wheeler called the attention of the members to the fact that the cases of mounted birds presented to the Club by Mr. G. Frean Morcom were not properly cared for, and he volunteered to look them up and have them placed in the Oakland Museum where they would be carefully protected. A motion was made and carried that the birds be secured and placed in the Oakland Museum and a receipt be turned over to the Secretary.

Mr. H. C. Tracy presented a very able paper dealing with the directive markings of birds, and exhibited a number of skins clearly illustrating his remarks.

Mr. Tracy's observations were made principally in the East and also in Asia Minor, and the talk about the birds of the latter place proved very interesting to those present. Among the notable birds of that district Mr. Tracy mentioned a species of Nuthatch (*Sitta neumayeri*) that builds a nest similar to the Cliff Swallow of our country and places the same on the side of a large rock.—H. W. CARRIGER, *Secretary*.

MAY.—The May meeting of the Northern Division was held on the evening of the 7th at the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology. Meeting was called to order at 8:15 with Mr. H. S. Swarth in the chair. Minutes of last meeting were read, and approved as read.

Resignation of Miss Applegate of Haywards, which was read at the last meeting, was on motion accepted. On motion the Secretary was instructed to cast the unanimous ballot of those present electing to active membership those whose names were presented at the last meeting.

The applications of Messrs. Paul Griswold Howes, Stamford, Conn., J. H. Fleming, Toronto, Ont., and Miss E. W. Fisher, Philadelphia, Pa., all proposed by Mr. Lee Chambers, were read and laid over till the next meeting.

The Constitution of The Pacific Association of Scientific Societies, together with a letter from Mr. Bowman, was read and Mr. Joseph Grinnell and Mr. Roswell Wheeler were appointed a committee to represent the Cooper Club.

Mr. Walter Taylor gave a very interesting talk on his trip into Nevada and showed some of the birds taken on the trip. Mr. Taylor showed a set of eggs of the Red-shafted Flicker which he had taken from a nest in a hay stack; the lack of trees caused the Flicker to use this unusual place as a nesting site. He also spoke of finding Nuthatches in the sage brush on the Nevada deserts.—H. W. CARRIGER, *Secretary*.

JULY.—The July meeting of the Cooper Ornithological Club was held on the evening of the 9th in the Research Room of the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, Berkeley. Meeting was called to order at 8:30 p. m. with President Grinnell in the chair.

Mr. Loye Holmes Miller, who has for some time been working on the fossil-bearing beds near Los Angeles gave a very interesting lecture on the work done there, illustrated with a large number of the birds that have been unearthed recently.

At the conclusion of Mr. Miller's lecture the regular business was taken up and the minutes of the last meeting were read and approved as read.

The application of Mr. H. C. Tracy, proposed by Mr. Grinnell, and of Mr. Outram Bangs, proposed by Mr. Chambers were presented and laid over till the next meeting.

A motion was made and carried that the Secretary cast the unanimous ballot of those present electing to active membership Messrs. J. H. Fleming, Paul Griswold Howes and Miss E. W. Fisher, whose names were presented at the last meeting.

The resignation of Mr. Otto Emerson which has been on the table for some time was taken up, and on the recommendation of the committee that called on Mr. Emerson the same was, on motion, accepted.

A letter from Mr. J. H. Bowman, chairman of the Pacific Association of Scientific Societies, was read and discussed by members present.

The proposition to invite a meeting of the A. O. U. to be held in San Francisco during the World's Fair in 1915 was discussed.

The proposal to elect Prof. F. E. L. Beal to Honorary membership in the Club, which had been previously presented, was brought before the meeting, and the same was carried by ballot unanimously.—H. W. CARRIGER, *Secretary*.

SEPTEMBER.—Meeting of the Cooper Ornithological Club was held September 10, 1910, at

the Museum of Zoology, Berkeley. It was called to order at 8:30 p. m., J. Grinnell presiding. Members present: Dr. C. Hart Merriam, Dr. W. F. Badé, E. W. Gifford, J. Grinnell, W. P. Taylor; eight visitors.

Mr. J. Grinnell gave a paper on the Avifauna of the Colorado River, from Needles to Yuma.

Dr. C. Hart Merriam talked very interestingly of the Colorado River in the vicinity of Vegas Valley, Nevada.

It was moved and seconded that the Club entertain favorably Mr. Tyler's proposition to form a central division of the Club at Fresno, in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution. After favorable discussion, the motion was carried.

Mr. Grinnell gave a report of the Committee on the Pacific Association of Scientific Societies. A meeting of the latter organization, thru delegates from eight societies, was held a week ago. Mr. Grinnell reported signing articles of charter membership for the Cooper Club. It was moved that the action of the Committee in signing for the Club be considered ratified. Carried.

The following names were proposed for membership: H. C. Bryant, Berkeley, N. B. Stern, Berkeley, Tracy I. Storer, Oakland, and H. L. Coggins, San Francisco, all by W. P. Taylor.

The names laid over from the last meeting were read. It was moved and carried that the secretary cast the unanimous ballot of the Club electing these persons to membership. Adjourned.—W. P. TAYLOR, *Sec'y pro tem*.

#### SOUTHERN DIVISION

APRIL.—The April meeting of the Southern Division of the Cooper Club was held on Thursday evening, April 28, 1910, at Room 1, City Hall, Los Angeles.

President Morcom called the meeting to order with the following members present: Messrs. Judson, Willett, Zahn, Robertson and Lelande. Mr. Lelande was selected to act as temporary Secretary. The minutes of the March meeting were read and approved.

On motion of Mr. Willett, seconded by Mr. Zahn and duly carried, the Secretary was instructed to cast the unanimous ballot of those present, electing to active membership Mr. H. B. Weber.

A communication from Harry S. Swarth was read, address to the Secretary of the Club, asking the Southern Division to take up at its April meeting the matter of joining the Pacific Association of Scientific Societies. With the communication was enclosed a copy of the by-laws of said Association.

The following motion was made by Mr. Willett and seconded by Mr. Zahn and duly carried: That the President and Secretary take

such steps on behalf of the Southern Division as necessary for the club to become associated with the Pacific Association of Scientific Societies.

After considerable discussion upon various bird questions, the meeting adjourned.

H. J. LELANDE, *Secretary pro tem*.

MAY.—The May meeting of the Southern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club was held in Room 1, City Hall, Los Angeles, on the 28th, with President Morcom in the Chair, and the following members present: Messrs. Snyder, Perez, Willett, Miller, Chambers, Alphonse and Antonin Jay, Zahn, Robertson, Howard, Van Rossem, Blaine, Shepardson, Chamberlain and Lelande.

There being no objection, the President appointed Mr. Lelande Temporary Secretary. The minutes of the April meeting were read and approved. The application of H. H. Ferris was read. On motion of Mr. Robertson, seconded by Mr. Miller, and duly adopted, the action of the Club taken at the April meeting in regard to the Pacific Association of Scientific Societies was rescinded, and further action on the matter postponed until the June meeting.

After considerable discussion over bird topics and the proposed trip of several members of the Club to the Channel Islands, the meeting adjourned.—HARRY J. LELANDE, *Temporary Secretary*.

JUNE.—The June meeting of the Southern Division of the Cooper Club was held on Thursday evening, June 30, 1910, at Room 1, City Hall. The meeting was called to order by President Morcom, with the following members present: Messrs. Robertson, Linton, Lelande, Antonin Jay, Howard, Alphonse Jay, Davis, Kofahl, Willett, Osburn, Chambers, Roberts, Lowe, Zahn and Law.

The minutes of the May meeting were read and approved. On motion by Mr. Willett, seconded by Mr. Howard, the Secretary was instructed to cast the unanimous ballot of those present, electing to active membership Mr. H. H. Ferris. Application for membership of E. S. Spaulding, Santa Barbara, California, proposed by J. Hooper Bowles, was presented.

On motion by Mr. Robertson, seconded by Mr. Willett, and duly carried, the proposition with regard to the Pacific Association of Scientific Societies was laid on the table pending the receipt of more information with regard to its purpose.

As most of the members present were with one or the other of the two expeditions to the Channel Islands during the last month, a very interesting description, with an exhibition of a large number of photographs pertinent to those trips, followed. Adjourned.—J. E. LAW, *Secretary*.